

RESOLUTION NO. 2478

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF HILLSBORO ENCOURAGING A CURTAILMENT OF OPEN BURNING AND WOOD BURNING IN APPLIANCES LACKING AIR POLLUTION CONTROL EQUIPMENT.

WHEREAS, the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) provides for a spring and fall burn season: from March 1 to June 15, and from October 1 to December 15. The DEQ and the State Fire Marshall may adjust burn seasons daily during periods of high fire danger or for health and safety reasons; and

WHEREAS, the City Council finds Open Burning, which includes agricultural burning, backyard burning, and land clearing, contributes significantly to local air pollution and threatens the health and well-being of Hillsboro residents and other persons; and

WHEREAS, burning wood in fireplaces and fire burning appliances that lack air pollution control equipment contributes significantly to local air pollution and threatens the health and well-being of Hillsboro residents and other persons, particularly during the fall burn season; and

WHEREAS, this issue is particularly important for the City because of the City's urban density and smoke from wood and Open Burning (particularly burning leaves) exacerbates breathing difficulties for many residents; and

WHEREAS, through the City Burn Line (503-681-6204) and the Hillsboro Fire Department website the DEQ issues a daily air quality notice that includes burn restrictions during periods of poor air quality; and

WHEREAS, air quality information is available to all residents through www.airnow.gov; and

WHEREAS, the City Council is concerned that the City may exceed the federal Clean Air Act standard for certain air pollutants;

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY OF HILLSBORO RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. The City of Hillsboro strongly encourages all citizens to refrain from burning wood in appliances that lack pollution control equipment on days when an air advisory is issued.

Section 2. The City of Hillsboro strongly encourages all citizens to refrain from Open Burning on days when an air advisory is issued.

Section 3. The City of Hillsboro urges residents to delay Open Burning until the spring burn season.

Section 4. The City of Hillsboro is collaborating with Washington County and other key partners to provide enhanced and accessible resources and education about local air quality and alternatives to wood burning, and to develop incentive programs to retrofit fireplaces and wood burning devices that lack pollution control equipment.

Section 5. In 2015 the City of Hillsboro will conduct a comprehensive review of policies related to wood burning, including engagement with citizens and businesses, and revise or implement policies to maximize air quality and fire safety.

Section 6. This resolution is effective immediately upon adoption.

Approved and adopted by the Hillsboro City Council at a regular meeting held on the 18th day of November 2014.



Jerry Willey, Mayor

ATTEST:



Amber Ames, City Recorder